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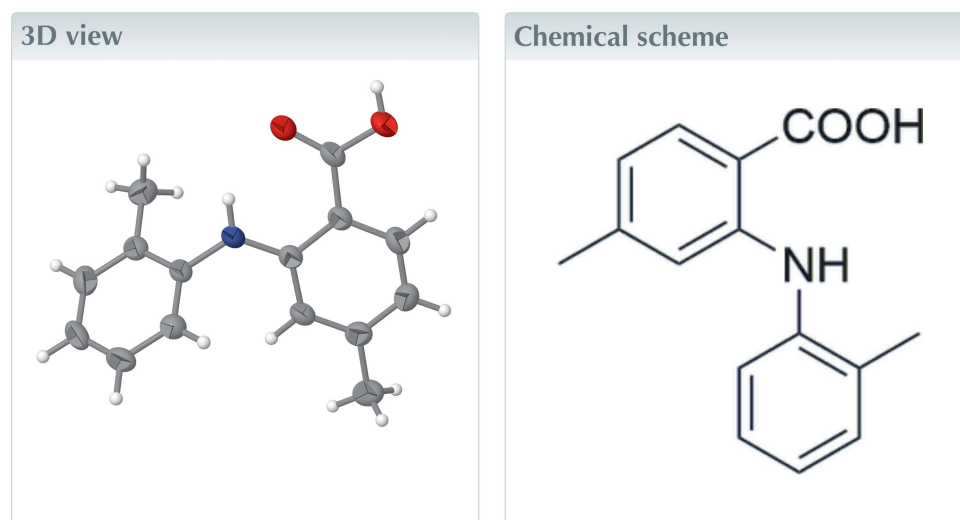
Structural data: full structural data are available from iucrdata.iucr.org

4-Methyl-2-(2-methylanilino)benzoic acid

Chenxin Liu and Sihui Long*

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The title compound, $C_{15}H_{15}NO_2$, was obtained by the reaction of 2-chloro-4-methyl-benzoic acid and *o*-toluidine using 2-ethoxyethanol as solvent. Crystals of the title compounds were obtained from crystallization in acetone. The molecule in the crystal is twisted with a dihedral angle between the aromatic rings of $50.86(5)^\circ$. In the crystal structure, the molecules associate to form acid–acid hydrogen-bonded dimers linked by pairwise $O-H\cdots O$ hydrogen bonds.



Structure description

Anthranilic acids are compounds with great medicinal value. They play an important role in non-steroidal anti-inflammatory (Masubuchi *et al.*, 1998), antibacterial (Abdulkarem *et al.*, 2019) and antiviral agents (Inglet 1969) and other drugs. The title compound has a methyl group on both aromatic rings (Fig. 1). As a result of steric repulsion, the aromatic rings are not coplanar with a dihedral angle of $50.86(5)^\circ$. In the crystal, two molecules pair up to form a carboxylic acid–carboxylic acid hydrogen-bonded dimer. An intramolecular $N1-H1A\cdots O2$ hydrogen bond (Table 1, Fig. 2) is also observed.

Synthesis and crystallization

The title compound was prepared by reacting 2-chloro-4-methyl-benzoic acid and *o*-toluidine in the presence of a catalyst at 403 K (Fig. 3). The product was purified by column chromatography. Single crystals were obtained by slowly evaporating an acetone solution of the compound (Fig. 4).

Refinement

Crystal data, data collection and structure refinement details are summarized in Table 2.



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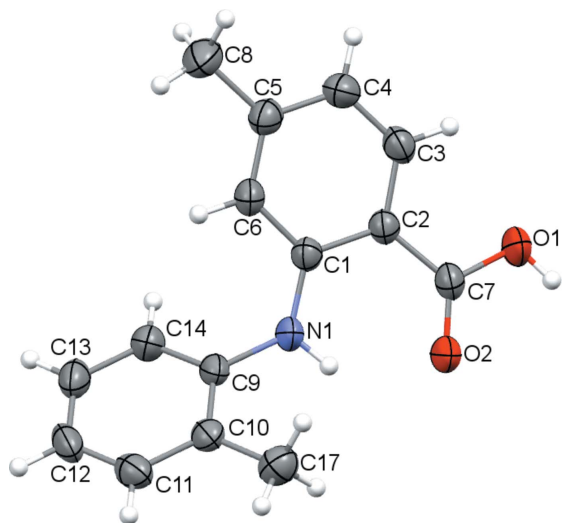


Figure 1
Molecular structure of the title compound, with displacement ellipsoids drawn at the 50% probability level.

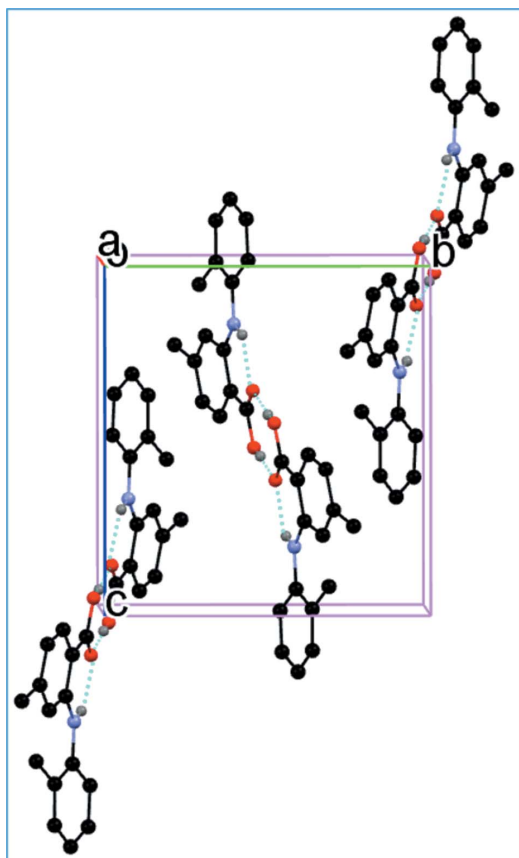


Figure 2
Packing of the molecules in the title compound (for clarity, H atoms not involved in hydrogen bonding are omitted). Hydrogen bonds are indicated by dashed lines.

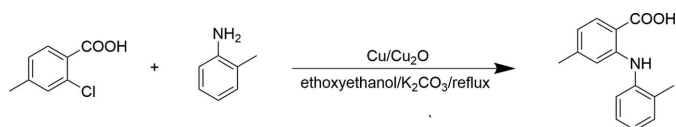


Figure 3
Reaction scheme.

Table 1
Hydrogen-bond geometry (\AA , $^\circ$).

$D-H\cdots A$	$D-H$	$H\cdots A$	$D\cdots A$	$D-H\cdots A$
$O1-H1\cdots O2^i$	0.82	1.84	2.6570 (17)	174
$N1-H1A\cdots O2$	0.86	2.01	2.6942 (17)	136

Symmetry code: (i) $-x + 1, -y + 1, -z + 1$.

Table 2
Experimental details.

Crystal data	
Chemical formula	$C_{15}H_{15}NO_2$
M_r	241.28
Crystal system, space group	Monoclinic, $P2_1/c$
Temperature (K)	293
a, b, c (\AA)	9.6678 (8), 10.9294 (11), 11.7231 (8)
β ($^\circ$)	93.395 (7)
V (\AA^3)	1236.53 (18)
Z	4
Radiation type	Cu $K\alpha$
μ (mm^{-1})	0.69
Crystal size (mm)	$0.08 \times 0.04 \times 0.02$
Data collection	
Diffractometer	SuperNova, Dual, Cu at zero, Eos
Absorption correction	Multi-scan (<i>CrysAlis PRO</i> ; Rigaku OD, 2015)
T_{\min}, T_{\max}	0.919, 1.000
No. of measured, independent and observed [$I > 2\sigma(I)$] reflections	4437, 2285, 1828
R_{int}	0.019
$(\sin \theta/\lambda)_{\text{max}}$ (\AA^{-1})	0.609
Refinement	
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)], wR(F^2), S$	0.045, 0.131, 1.04
No. of reflections	2285
No. of parameters	166
H-atom treatment	H-atom parameters constrained
$\Delta\rho_{\text{max}}, \Delta\rho_{\text{min}}$ ($e \text{\AA}^{-3}$)	0.25, -0.20

Computer programs: *CrysAlis PRO* (Rigaku OD, 2015), *SHELXS* (Sheldrick, 2008), *SHELXL* (Sheldrick, 2015), *OLEX2* (Dolomanov *et al.*, 2009) and *Mercury* (Macrae *et al.*, 2020).

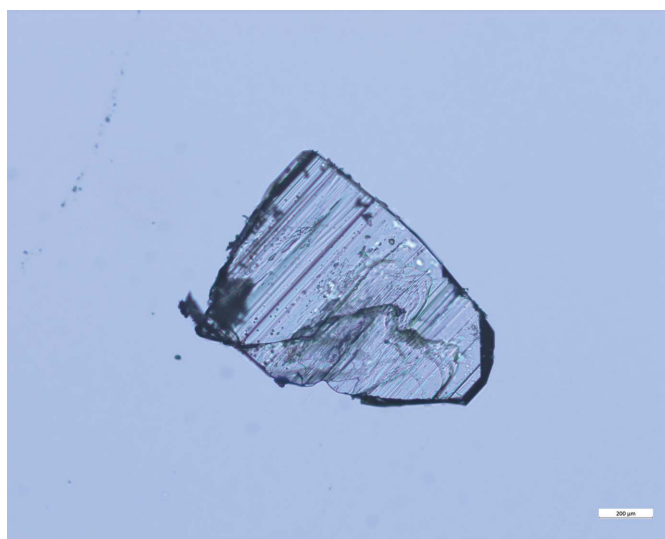


Figure 4
A representative crystal of the title compound.

Funding information

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full crystallographic data

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Crystal data

$C_{15}H_{15}NO_2$

$M_r = 241.28$

Monoclinic, $P2_1/c$

$a = 9.6678$ (8) Å

$b = 10.9294$ (11) Å

$c = 11.7231$ (8) Å

$\beta = 93.395$ (7)°

$V = 1236.53$ (18) Å³

$Z = 4$

$F(000) = 512$

$D_x = 1.296$ Mg m⁻³

Cu $K\alpha$ radiation, $\lambda = 1.54184$ Å

Cell parameters from 1387 reflections

$\theta = 9.3$ – 69.0 °

$\mu = 0.69$ mm⁻¹

$T = 293$ K

Plate, clear light colourless

$0.08 \times 0.04 \times 0.02$ mm

Data collection

SuperNova, Dual, Cu at zero, Eos
diffractometer

Radiation source: micro-focus sealed X-ray
tube, SuperNova (Cu) X-ray Source

Mirror monochromator

Detector resolution: 16.0733 pixels mm⁻¹

ω scans

Absorption correction: multi-scan
(CrysAlisPro; Rigaku OD, 2015)

$T_{\min} = 0.919$, $T_{\max} = 1.000$

4437 measured reflections

2285 independent reflections

1828 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$

$R_{\text{int}} = 0.019$

$\theta_{\max} = 70.0$ °, $\theta_{\min} = 4.6$ °

$h = -11 \rightarrow 11$

$k = -12 \rightarrow 13$

$l = -13 \rightarrow 10$

Refinement

Refinement on F^2

Least-squares matrix: full

$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.045$

$wR(F^2) = 0.131$

$S = 1.04$

2285 reflections

166 parameters

0 restraints

Primary atom site location: structure-invariant
direct methods

Hydrogen site location: inferred from
neighbouring sites

H-atom parameters constrained

$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0678P)^2 + 0.2398P]$

where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$

$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\max} < 0.001$

$\Delta\rho_{\max} = 0.25$ e Å⁻³

$\Delta\rho_{\min} = -0.20$ e Å⁻³

Special details

Geometry. All esds (except the esd in the dihedral angle between two l.s. planes) are estimated using the full covariance matrix. The cell esds are taken into account individually in the estimation of esds in distances, angles and torsion angles; correlations between esds in cell parameters are only used when they are defined by crystal symmetry. An approximate (isotropic) treatment of cell esds is used for estimating esds involving l.s. planes.

Refinement. The positions of H atoms in N1 and O1 were obtained from the difference Fourier map. Other H atoms were positioned geometrically with C—H = 0.93 for aromatic, and constrained to ride on their parent atoms with $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H}) = xU_{\text{eq}}(\text{C}, \text{O})$, where $x=1.5$ for all H atoms.

Fractional atomic coordinates and isotropic or equivalent isotropic displacement parameters (\AA^2)

	<i>x</i>	<i>y</i>	<i>z</i>	$U_{\text{iso}}^*/U_{\text{eq}}$
O1	0.32010 (13)	0.52719 (14)	0.45925 (9)	0.0527 (4)
H1	0.396573	0.509295	0.437474	0.079*
O2	0.44087 (12)	0.53328 (13)	0.62639 (9)	0.0487 (4)
N1	0.30228 (14)	0.58797 (15)	0.81250 (11)	0.0434 (4)
H1A	0.377666	0.564178	0.783957	0.052*
C1	0.19420 (15)	0.61667 (15)	0.73583 (13)	0.0332 (4)
C2	0.20410 (16)	0.59559 (14)	0.61709 (13)	0.0333 (4)
C3	0.09126 (17)	0.62616 (17)	0.54234 (13)	0.0409 (4)
H3	0.096893	0.611557	0.464602	0.049*
C4	−0.02712 (18)	0.67684 (17)	0.57997 (15)	0.0455 (4)
H4	−0.100826	0.695348	0.528272	0.055*
C5	−0.03698 (17)	0.70070 (16)	0.69615 (15)	0.0405 (4)
C6	0.07217 (16)	0.66986 (16)	0.77176 (13)	0.0375 (4)
H6	0.064581	0.684862	0.849231	0.045*
C7	0.33051 (17)	0.54979 (15)	0.57000 (13)	0.0365 (4)
C8	−0.1651 (2)	0.7593 (2)	0.73824 (18)	0.0614 (6)
H8A	−0.238018	0.699747	0.739025	0.092*
H8B	−0.193583	0.825546	0.688383	0.092*
H8C	−0.145628	0.790187	0.814164	0.092*
C9	0.30353 (16)	0.59315 (16)	0.93298 (13)	0.0357 (4)
C10	0.41723 (16)	0.64529 (16)	0.99389 (13)	0.0370 (4)
C11	0.41862 (18)	0.64593 (17)	1.11262 (14)	0.0452 (4)
H11	0.494677	0.678781	1.154221	0.054*
C12	0.3104 (2)	0.59922 (19)	1.17011 (14)	0.0492 (5)
H12	0.312562	0.602599	1.249460	0.059*
C13	0.19886 (19)	0.54745 (18)	1.10961 (15)	0.0475 (5)
H13	0.125187	0.516229	1.148058	0.057*
C14	0.19640 (18)	0.54187 (17)	0.99152 (14)	0.0426 (4)
H14	0.122853	0.503693	0.951043	0.051*
C17	0.53483 (18)	0.69949 (18)	0.93333 (16)	0.0495 (5)
H17A	0.582818	0.635765	0.895481	0.074*
H17B	0.597691	0.739472	0.987773	0.074*
H17C	0.499370	0.757976	0.877931	0.074*

Atomic displacement parameters (\AA^2)

	U^{11}	U^{22}	U^{33}	U^{12}	U^{13}	U^{23}
O1	0.0452 (7)	0.0860 (11)	0.0276 (6)	0.0073 (7)	0.0069 (5)	−0.0103 (6)
O2	0.0421 (7)	0.0745 (9)	0.0299 (6)	0.0147 (6)	0.0058 (5)	−0.0046 (6)
N1	0.0337 (7)	0.0716 (11)	0.0253 (7)	0.0098 (7)	0.0055 (5)	−0.0038 (6)
C1	0.0326 (8)	0.0379 (8)	0.0294 (8)	−0.0023 (6)	0.0041 (6)	0.0010 (6)

C2	0.0350 (8)	0.0363 (8)	0.0288 (8)	-0.0023 (6)	0.0046 (6)	-0.0002 (6)
C3	0.0455 (9)	0.0493 (10)	0.0279 (8)	-0.0026 (8)	0.0019 (7)	0.0000 (7)
C4	0.0381 (9)	0.0576 (11)	0.0403 (9)	0.0025 (8)	-0.0021 (7)	0.0065 (8)
C5	0.0374 (9)	0.0438 (9)	0.0407 (9)	0.0020 (7)	0.0076 (7)	0.0061 (7)
C6	0.0388 (9)	0.0450 (9)	0.0295 (8)	0.0025 (7)	0.0082 (6)	0.0001 (7)
C7	0.0419 (9)	0.0422 (9)	0.0260 (7)	-0.0010 (7)	0.0066 (6)	-0.0007 (6)
C8	0.0493 (11)	0.0798 (15)	0.0563 (12)	0.0212 (11)	0.0120 (9)	0.0121 (11)
C9	0.0347 (8)	0.0457 (9)	0.0269 (7)	0.0108 (7)	0.0038 (6)	-0.0002 (7)
C10	0.0364 (8)	0.0400 (9)	0.0347 (8)	0.0094 (7)	0.0029 (6)	-0.0011 (7)
C11	0.0490 (10)	0.0497 (10)	0.0361 (9)	0.0095 (8)	-0.0051 (7)	-0.0046 (8)
C12	0.0610 (11)	0.0618 (12)	0.0251 (8)	0.0175 (9)	0.0044 (8)	0.0031 (8)
C13	0.0463 (10)	0.0587 (11)	0.0390 (9)	0.0109 (9)	0.0151 (8)	0.0124 (8)
C14	0.0363 (8)	0.0560 (11)	0.0358 (9)	0.0029 (8)	0.0046 (7)	0.0026 (8)
C17	0.0411 (9)	0.0543 (11)	0.0531 (11)	-0.0015 (8)	0.0036 (8)	0.0009 (9)

Geometric parameters (Å, °)

O1—C7	1.3196 (18)	C5—C6	1.379 (2)
O2—C7	1.235 (2)	C5—C8	1.504 (2)
N1—C1	1.374 (2)	C9—C10	1.396 (2)
N1—C9	1.4129 (19)	C9—C14	1.394 (2)
C1—C2	1.420 (2)	C10—C11	1.391 (2)
C1—C6	1.402 (2)	C10—C17	1.498 (2)
C2—C3	1.399 (2)	C11—C12	1.376 (3)
C2—C7	1.459 (2)	C12—C13	1.377 (3)
C3—C4	1.368 (2)	C13—C14	1.385 (2)
C4—C5	1.396 (2)		
C1—N1—C9	127.31 (13)	O1—C7—C2	114.81 (14)
N1—C1—C2	120.78 (14)	O2—C7—O1	120.84 (14)
N1—C1—C6	121.27 (14)	O2—C7—C2	124.35 (14)
C6—C1—C2	117.94 (14)	C10—C9—N1	119.17 (14)
C1—C2—C7	122.22 (14)	C14—C9—N1	120.90 (15)
C3—C2—C1	118.69 (14)	C14—C9—C10	119.86 (15)
C3—C2—C7	118.99 (14)	C9—C10—C17	121.04 (15)
C4—C3—C2	122.08 (15)	C11—C10—C9	118.32 (15)
C3—C4—C5	119.82 (15)	C11—C10—C17	120.64 (16)
C4—C5—C8	120.33 (16)	C12—C11—C10	121.71 (17)
C6—C5—C4	119.19 (15)	C11—C12—C13	119.69 (16)
C6—C5—C8	120.47 (16)	C12—C13—C14	119.98 (16)
C5—C6—C1	122.24 (15)	C13—C14—C9	120.36 (17)

Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, °)

<i>D</i> —H \cdots <i>A</i>	<i>D</i> —H	H \cdots <i>A</i>	<i>D</i> \cdots <i>A</i>	<i>D</i> —H \cdots <i>A</i>
O1—H1 \cdots O2 ⁱ	0.82	1.84	2.6570 (17)	174

N1—H1A···O2	0.86	2.01	2.6942 (17)	136
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Symmetry code: (i) $-x+1, -y+1, -z+1$.